

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00967 250915Z
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00
 INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 ICA-11
 NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 HEW-04 DODE-00 L-03 SS-15
 AGRE-00 AID-05 /102 W
 -----110918 251350Z /43

R 250805Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4609
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CONCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0967

VIENNA FOR WALTZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, BU
SUBJECT: OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION DATA

REF: A) STATE 098632 (NOTAL), B) GENEVA 982 (NOTAL)

1. IN RESPONSE TO MAY 8 EMBASSY INQUIRY (REF A), GOB
OFFICIAL ON MAY 23 PROVIDED SOME GENERAL INFORMATION
REGARDING CULTIVATION OF OPIUM POPPY AS LEGITIMATE CROP
IN BULGARIA. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A MORE FORMAL APPROACH
MIGHT PRODUCE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN TIME, BUT IT
IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT GOB FEELS IT ALREADY PROVIDES
SUCH DATA TO THE UN AND THAT THERE IS NO PARTICULAR REASON
TO PROVIDE IT TO US. FOLLOWING IS INFORMATION PROVIDED.
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2. BULGARIA CULTIVATES SUCH SMALL AMOUNTS OF OPIUM
POPPY AS TO BE VIRTUALLY WITHOUT SIGNIFICANCE. THE UN,
IN FACT, HAS URGED BULGARIA TO PRODUCE MORE, INSTEAD OF
TURKEY, SINCE BULGARIAN CONTROLS ON PRODUCTION ARE MUCH
STRONGER THAN TURKEY'S. BULGARIA HAS NOT AGREED TO DO
THIS AND PRODUCES FAR UNDER ITS QUOTA BECAUSE OPIUM POPPY

CULTIVATION IS NOT PROFITABLE IN BULGARIA, DUE TO CLIMATIC AND SOIL CONDITIONS. BULGARIA PROVIDES FULL INFORMATION ON ITS OPIUM PRODUCTION TO THE UN, FROM WHICH THE US COULD EASILY OBTAIN IT.

3. IN ILLUSTRATING THE INSIGNIFICANCE OF BULGARIAN OPIUM PRODUCTION, GOB OFFICIAL REMARKED THAT BULGARIA DOES IMPORT OPIUM FROM LAGOS, BUT WITHOUT PROVIDING ANY SPECIFIC DATA IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S FOLLOW-UP QUESTION (REF B AND OTHERS).
GARTHOFF

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: OPIUM, DRUG TRAFFIC, PRODUCTION DATA, PLANTS (FLORA)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Subject: OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION DATA
TAGS: SNAR, BU
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